Programme. Targets for 2007-2008 have been approved and communicated to the Ministries/Departments concerned for appropriate action.

The implementation of the 15 Point Programme is monitored by the Committee of Secretaries (COS), which reviews the progress of the programme in respect of monitorable targets, once every six months and reports the status to the Cabinet. Detailed guidelines have been sent to the State Governments/UT Administrations, including constitution of State and District Level Committees for monitoring the implementation of the programme. Several States have already constituted such Committees.

The New 15-Point Programme provides for special consideration to minorities in recruitment to Government jobs. Department of Personnel and Training has already issued guidelines to improve the representation of minority communities in Government jobs.

The educational backwardness of the Muslim community is sought to be addressed through a multi-pronged strategy. Government has already launched a merit-cum-means scholarship scheme and a Free Coaching and Allied Scheme. The corpus fund of the Maulana Azad Education Foundation has been enhanced from Rs.100 to Rs.200 crores so as to enable it to enlarge its activities.

The Constitution (One Hundred and Third Amendment) Bill, 2004, to confer constitutional status on the National Commission for Minorities, has already been introduced in the Lok Sabha in December, 2004.

Government has already introduced the Communal Violence (Prevention, Control and Rehabilitation of Victims) Bill, 2005, in Rajya Sabha in December, 2005.

Fund for upliftment of muslims

2837. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated and utilized during the Tenth Five Year Plan for upliftment of muslims in the country;

(b) whether the funds allocated during the Plan were sufficient to meet the growing demand for upliftment of muslims;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government have chalked out a strategy for allocation of more funds for the purpose during the Eleventh Five Year Plan for muslim communities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) Funds are not allocated on the basis of religious community.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.